

October 11, 2012

Re: NRCC Advertisement Regarding Jim Matheson

Dear Station Manager:

We are in receipt of a letter from Michael Young on behalf of Jim Matheson's congressional campaign regarding a television advertisement distributed by the National Republican Congressional Committee ("the Advertisement"). The Matheson campaign and their counsel have resorted to conclusory legal assertions and made threats to your station's license in an attempt to frighten you into removing the Advertisement from the airwaves, thereby aiding Mr. Matheson's campaign. As with every advertisement aired by the NRCC, we fully defend this Advertisement, which is entirely based in fact, completely accurate, and has every right to remain on the air as a part of the marketplace of ideas.

Mr. Young writes to complain about the Advertisement's use of an image of Mr. Matheson next to the words "Obamacare. Bailouts." Mr. Young contends that Mr. Matheson voted against Obamacare, but fails to note that Mr. Matheson subsequently voted *against* repeal of Obamacare on January 19, 2011. In fact, according to the votes Mr. Matheson has cast thus far in the 112th Congress, he has voted to fund Obamacare thirteen different times. Simply put, Mr. Matheson can't stand on both sides of the fence with respect to Obamacare. While he may have voted against the legislation initially, when given the opportunity to repeal it, Mr. Matheson chose to support Obamacare instead. For more information on Mr. Matheson's support of Obamacare, please see *Attachment 1*, a *Salt Lake City Tribune Article* entitled "Matheson to Vote Against Repeal of Health Care Law."

Mr. Young also contends that the Advertisement's use of the word "bailouts" is inaccurate given Mr. Matheson's votes against the TARP and Auto Bailout. However, Mr. Young fails to recognize that Mr. Matheson has voted in support of other bailouts – namely, legislation to bail out both Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac – which is *clearly* the vote this Advertisement is referencing.¹ Mr. Young is attempting to hide the truth of the matter – Mr. Matheson has clearly voted in support of bailing out mortgage finance giants at taxpayer expenses.

As plainly proven above, not a single word of the NRCC Advertisement is false or misleading. Rather, the Matheson campaign and Mr. Young have chosen to ignore the facts and construct an alternate reality in an attempt to make you believe the Advertisement is false and malicious. Nothing could be further from the truth. Mr. Matheson's voting record speaks for itself.

Removing factual political speech from the airwaves would most certainly not be in the public interest. If Mr. Young and Mr. Matheson's campaign wish to exercise their right to speak, they are certainly free to do so, but not by stifling the speech of others. We urge you not to accede to the campaign's empty legal threats and allow the Matheson campaign to hijack your television station for its own public relations interests.

¹ The Advertisement cites vote 519, July 23, 2008, in support of the use of the word "bailout." Vote 519 was the vote to bailout Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and Mr. Matheson voted in support of this legislation.

We trust that this letter serves to properly substantiate this Advertisement, but please contact me if I can be of further assistance. I may be reached via phone at (202) 290-0381 or by email at jfurst@nrcc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Furst', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Jessica Furst
General Counsel
National Republican Congressional Committee